and by degrees, by the simultaneous growth of the *Bryozöon* and the Sea-Anemone, such a complex organism as I have described is produced.

Note on the Segmental Organs of *Aphrodita*.

By William A. Haswell, M.A., B.Sc.

Having recently, for the first time had the opportunity of examining specimens of *Aphrodita* in the living state, I have been able to study the structure of the segmental organs, which I find to differ in no essential point from those of *Polynoë* as lately described by me.* I have it on the authority of Pagenstecher,† that the external apertures of these organs in *Aphrodita* were known to Treviranus. They have probably been noticed by numerous observers since,‡ but the true arrangement of the organs themselves seems never to have been made out,§ and entirely erroneous descriptions of them have, as I have previously had occasion to notice, been published and accepted. The external apertures are situated, as in *Polynoë*, on the ventral surface close to the bases of the parapodia; but there is no perforated tubercle or cirrus as in the latter genus. The segmental organs themselves consist of small, flattened, somewhat sigmoid, reddish-yellow sacs, situated in contact with the ventral wall of the body a little

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* Proc. Linn. Soc., N.S.W., vol. vii., p. 262, and 'Zoologischer Anzeiger,' 1882.

† Allgemeine Zoologie, Theil iv.

‡ Quatrefages among the number—He says (Hist. Nat. des Annelés, I., p. 109) "Chez une Aphrodite hispide mâle, j'ai vu le sperme sortir, sous la forme d'un filet blanc, de la base de la rame inferieure d'un seul côté du dix-neuvième anneau."

§ Cosmovici in a paper on the segmental organs of Annelides published in the 'Archives de Zoologie Experimentale et Generale' which I have not seen, has (as I learn from an abstract in the Journ. R. Micro. Soc., vol. iii., pp. 635 and 949.) described the segmental organs of the allied genus *Hermione*.

internally to the bases of the parapodia. They are widest in the middle, pointed at either end, the one end opening externally in the position described, and the inner ending blindly, the internal aperture being situated in the middle of the wider central part of the organ.

Postscript.

Since the above was written I have received a copy of the Supplement to Claparèdes "Annélides Chétopodes du Golfe de Naples" (Genève et Bale, 1870), and find that in his description of *Hermadion fragile* he states—"A la base des pieds du côté ventral, non loin du bord postérieur, je trouve une proéminence conique (fig. 2, b.) percée d'une orifice. Cette ouverture conduit dans un canal cilié qu'on peut poursuivre jusque dans l'intérieure des pieds où il est bientôt voilé par la masse des éléments reproducteurs. C'est là evidemment l'ouverture de l'organe segmentaire."* The true position of the external apertures of the segmental organs in the *Polynoina* was, therefore known, as regards this species at least to the distinguished author of the memoir above quoted, but his observations on this point have been overlooked both by Huxley and by Pagenstecher; and he himself seems not to have been aware of the universality of the arrangement he describes, as he makes no mention of the ventral tubercle or its central canal in his account of the other species of the family.

NOTES AND EXHIBITS.

Mr. W. A. Haswell exhibited drawings of the earlier stages in the development of *Phoronis australis*. Mr. Haswell also exhibited a coral which he had recently found in Port Jackson. With reference to this exhibit the Rev. J. E. Tenison-Woods stated that it was a *Plesiastræa*, which he was inclined to regard

* L. c., p. 16.